

**SANITATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015  
TIME: 4:00 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
ROOM 210  
MIDDLETOWN CONNECTICUT**

**Members Present:** Chair Seb Santacroce  
Thomas Goglia  
John Uccello  
Bobbie Knoll Peterson

**Absent:** Monica J. Belyea, MPH, RD

**Staff Present:** William J. Russo, Public Works Director  
Kim O'Rourke, Recycling Coordinator

Chair Santacroce opened the Sanitation Commission meeting at 4:00 P.M. He requested a motion to approve the minutes from February 3, 2015. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Director Russo requested that the commission take a vote to proceed under executive session so that the General Counsel can give updates. Motion to proceed under executive session was put on the table. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Motion was put on the table to proceed under regular session. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously to proceed under regular session.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. \$120,000.00 appropriation request for the purchase of recycling carts for the entire sanitation district to enhance single stream recycling – Director Russo stated that the first thing he does is work with the Finance Department, specifically Diana Doyle in situations similar to this. The fund balance is very healthy. With the help of the Recycling Coordinator, Kim O'Rourke, a pilot program has been put into place for about 200 accounts which totals 250 carts distributed. For every single garbage container, 1 single stream recycling container will be delivered for automated collection. These accounts are mostly near Jacobs Terrace, Bretton Road, Dora Drive & some areas in the Wesleyan campus for the single stream recycling.

Kim O'Rourke stated that currently, single stream recycling is being picked up in the district. This is when paper, bottles, cans, etc. are all put together into a separate container to be picked up. Recycling has changed significantly since single stream recycling started back in 1991. Thus, the eighteen gallon containers are too small for the amount of recycling being produced. Studies show that when residents have a larger container for recycling, more recycling is conducted. The pilot program has shown that recycling has been increased by about 42%, and the garbage decreased by about 26%. This is a savings of \$67,000.00 annually.

The cost to purchase about 2,200-2,400 carts is about \$120,000.00. If the amount of garbage is reduced in the way that it is proposed, then it will take 2 years or less to pay back the cost of the carts. The carts will be distributed by the company that the purchase is going to come from. For every ton that is reduced, it is a \$102.00 savings.

Education for the city residents will be in the works. Flyers will be mailed out to households and door to door stops will be made to explain the process further. A student intern is going to come and help Kim speak with businesses on Main Street in regards to the new single stream recycling procedures.

Director Russo stated that this information will be presented to the Public Works & Facilities Commission on December 9, 2015. Once approved, it will go on the January 2016 Common Council meeting for approval. The change is anticipated to take place by early spring 2016 if all goes as planned.

A motion was made to approve the \$120,000.00 appropriation request for the purchase of recycling carts for the entire sanitation district to enhance single stream recycling. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously. 19.50

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Cardboard Report – The commission discussed the cardboard report.
- b. Tonnage Report – The commission discussed tonnage and savings.

**OTHER:**

As there was no further business, a motion to adjourn was made. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously. The Sanitation Commission meeting was adjourned at 4:22 P.M.